



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC  
INSTRUCTION

April 9, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Thomas D. Watkins, Jr., Chairman

SUBJECT: Approval of Nominations to the Special Education  
Advisory Committee

The Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) advises the State Board of Education on matters concerning the education of children with disabilities. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act as amended in 1997, requires that this advisory committee include a 51% representation of persons with, or parents of persons with disabilities.

**The terms of ten organizational representatives and two at-large members will expire on June 30, 2003. At its February 27, 2003 meeting, members of the State Board of Education received information concerning the membership terms and were asked to submit nominations for the at-large vacancies. Organizations were also notified of the need to receive their nominations.**

Attachment A lists the organizations currently represented on the SEAC. Attachment B lists the names of individuals nominated to fill the at-large and organizational membership vacancies and describes the respective terms each will serve, if approved for appointment. The biographical resumes of those persons nominated are found in Attachment C.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the nominees listed in Attachment B of the Superintendent's memorandum of April 9, 2003, and appoint those individuals to serve as members of the Special Education Advisory Committee for the respective terms specified.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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**ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED ON THE SPECIAL EDUCATION  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

<b><u>Organization</u></b>	<b><u>Acronym</u></b>
1. The Arc Michigan	
2. Autism Society of Michigan	ASM
3. Citizens Alliance to Uphold Special Education	CAUSE
4. Council for Exceptional Children	
5. Learning Disability Association of Michigan	LDAM
6. Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education	MAASE
7. Michigan Association for Children with Emotional Disorders	MACED
8. Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators	MAISA
9. Michigan Association of Intermediate Special Education Administrators	MAISEA
*10. Michigan Association of Learning Disabilities Educators Michigan Association of Teachers of Emotionally Disturbed Children	MALDE/ MATEDC
11. Michigan Association of Nonpublic Schools	MANS
12. Michigan Association of Public School Academies	MAPSA
13. Michigan Association of School Administrators	MASA
14. Michigan Association of School Boards	MASB
*15. Michigan Association of School Psychologists Michigan Association of School Social Workers	MASP/ MASSW
16. Michigan Education Association	
17. Michigan Federation of Teachers and School Related Personnel	MFT&SRP
18. Michigan Speech-Language-Hearing Association	MSLHA
19. Michigan Transition Services Association	MTSA
20. Special Education Supervisors of Michigan	SESOM
21. Statewide Parent Advisory Committee	
22. Physically Impaired Association of Michigan (has disbanded/vacant seat)	PIAM

**\*Shared seats**

(In addition to the organizational seats, eight at-large members are nominated directly by the State Board of Education.)

## SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Individual Nominations to Fill Vacancies and  
their Respective Term of Service  
(2003)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Length of Term</u>
<sup>3</sup> Shari Krishnan	At-large	July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004
<sup>2</sup> Kathleen Clegg	At-large	July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2005
Anne Richards	ASM	July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2005
Patricia Keller	CAUSE	July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2006
Deb Todd	CEC	July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2005
Paul Kubicek	MALDE	July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2006
Jeffrey Siegel	MAISA	July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2006
<sup>3</sup> Donald Trap	MAISEA	July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2005
Lois Lofton Doniver	MFT&SRP	July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2006
Colette Ward	SPAC	July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2006
<sup>3</sup> Deb Russell	MASB	July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004
(not yet identified)	MAPSA	July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2006

The State Board also approves organizational alternates (alternate only, no defined term)

Bob Opsommer	ASM
Cindy Anderson	MAISEA
Ginny Palubin	MFT&SRP

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<sup>1</sup> Served one previous year on the SEAC

<sup>2</sup> Served two previous years on the SEAC

<sup>3</sup> Served three previous years on the SEAC

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**BIOGRAPHICAL RESUMES**

**Biographical Resumé: Special Education Advisory Committee  
Michigan State Board of Education**

**Name: Shari Krishnan**

**Term: 1 year (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004)**

**Address: 1550 Brandywine  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304**

**Present Position: Project manager**

**Business Telephone: (248) 852-2891**

**Category — Organization:**  
**X SEAC At-large Member**

**Race\*: Caucasian** **Gender: Female**  
**(\*Requested in order to obtain diverse representation)**

**Prior Experience:**  
**3 years on SEAC; Oakland ISD PAC Chair; Comptroller; Marketing Manager**

**Educational and Other Organizational Affiliations:**

**Education:**  
**Associates Degree - Nursing; BS Degree - Nursing; Masters Degree - Humanities; Specs  
Howard School of Broadcasting Arts; ET Nursing at Cleveland Clinic**

**Miscellaneous Information:**  
**Parent of son who has autism**

**Biographical Resumé: Special Education Advisory Committee**  
**Michigan State Board of Education**

**Name:** Kathleen Clegg **Term:** 2 years (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2005)

**Address:** Lapeer Intermediate School District  
1996 West Oregon  
Lapeer, MI 48446

**Present Position:** Director of Special Education, Lapeer ISD

**Business Telephone:** (810) 664-5917, ext. 161

**Category — Organization:**  
☒ SEAC At-large Member

**Race\*:** Caucasian **Gender:** Female  
(\*Requested in order to obtain diverse representation)

**Prior Experience:**

**3 years on SEAC; 1995-Present — Director of Special Education, Lapeer Co. ISD;**  
**1994-1995 — Counseling Associates; 1986-1994 — Consultant for Behavior**  
**Management and Psychological Services, Macomb ISD**

**Educational and Other Organizational Affiliations:**

**Association of Behavior Analysis; National Association of School Psychologists;**  
**Michigan Association of School Psychologists**

**Education:**

**Ed.S., School Psychology, Western Michigan University**

**Miscellaneous Information:**

**Biographical Resumé: Special Education Advisory Committee**  
**Michigan State Board of Education**

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**Name:** Anne Richardson

**Term:** 2 years (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2005)

**Address:** 1004 Pinckney Road  
Suite 201  
Howell, MI 48883

**Present Position:** ASM Board Vice President; Family advocate employed Arc of Livingston

**Business Telephone:** (517) 546-1228

**Category —** X **Organization:** Autism Society of Michigan  
SEAC At-large Member

**Race\*:** Caucasian **Gender:** Female  
(\*Requested in order to obtain diverse representation)

**Prior Experience:**

**PAC Vice Chair, LESA; ASM Board Member, 5 years; Assistant Coordinator Partners in Policymaking; Transition Council Member, LSEA; Arc of Livingston Board of Directors**

**Educational and Other Organizational Affiliations:**  
**LSEA PAC, LSEA Transition Council**

**Education:**

**2 years, U of M Flint; Michigan Partners in Policymaking**

**Miscellaneous Information:**

**Parent of a child receiving special education services**

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**Organization Alternate Nominee**

☐ Keep present alternate —

☒ **New alternate:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Bob Opsommer</b>
<b>Address</b>	<b>P.O. Box 25</b>
	<b>Shaftsburg MI 48882</b>

**Business telephone** (517) 675-7343

**Fax** (517) 675-4943

**Biographical Résumé: Special Education Advisory Committee**  
**Michigan State Board of Education**

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Name: Patricia Keller

Term: 3 years (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2006)

Address: 1200 Augusta  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783-3014

Present Position: Director, CAUSE

Business Telephone: (906) 635-9573

Category — X Organization: Citizens Alliance to Uphold Special Education  
SEAC At-large Member

Race\*: Caucasian Gender: Female  
(\*Requested in order to obtain diverse representation)

Prior Experience:

Several terms on SEAC; teacher of students with LD; taught private preschool;  
residential supervisor of court-placed children; public school sub. teacher; health and  
disabilities coordinator; trainer; OTP UP co-facilitator; various MDE work groups

Educational and Other Organizational Affiliations:

Parent Leadership Program; Partners in Policymaking; Family Support Network;  
ACMH; MP&A; Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD PAC; Toronto Summer Institute,  
CAUSE, CEC

Education:

BA, Western Michigan University - major in Psychology, minor in Social Work;  
Associates Degree, Lake Superior State University - Early Childhood Education

Miscellaneous Information:

Attend many conferences and workshops for current information; parent of a child with  
disabilities

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**Organization Alternate Nominee**

☒ Keep present alternate — Tiffiany Leischner

☐ New alternate: Name  
Address

Business telephone

Fax



**Biographical Résumé: Special Education Advisory Committee  
Michigan State Board of Education**

**Name: Deb Todd**

**Term: 3 years (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2006)**

**Address: P.O. Box 123  
Hersey, MI 49639**

**Present Position: self-employed**

**Business Telephone: (231) 832-2586**

**Category — X Organization: Council for Exceptional Children  
SEAC At-large Member**

**Race\*: Caucasian** **Gender: Female**  
**(\*Requested in order to obtain diverse representation)**

**Prior Experience:**

**Parent of young man with disabilities; served as Chair of the Mecosta-Osceola parent advisory committee; trustee of Central Michigan Mental Health facility board; Chair of Hope and Caring Parent Support Group**

**Educational and Other Organizational Affiliations:**

**Education:**

**Miscellaneous Information:**

**Biographical Resumé: Special Education Advisory Committee**  
**Michigan State Board of Education**

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Name: **Paul Kubicek**

Term: **3 years (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2006)**

Address: **15843 Brucker**  
**Grand Haven, MI 49417**

Present Position:

Business Telephone: **(616) 997-3303**

Category — **X Organization: Michigan Assn. of Learning Disabilities Educators**  
**SEAC At-large Member**

Race\*: **Caucasian** Gender: **Male**  
(\*Requested in order to obtain diverse representation)

Prior Experience:

**MALDE President and Member at-large; MATEDC Liaison for MALDE; Ottawa ISD  
traumatic brain injury group**

Educational and Other Organizational Affiliations:

**MEA; NEA; Coopersville Education Assn; MALDE; Michigan Assn of School  
Psychologists; Michigan Assn of EI Teachers; CEC**

Education:

**Ed Specialist - CMU; BS, Psychologist - Grand Valley**

Miscellaneous Information:

**Church activities; guest instructor at Hope College; Love and Logic Program trainer,  
teacher and parent groups**

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**Organization Alternate Nominee**

☐ Keep present alternate —

☐ New alternate:      Name  
                                    Address

Business telephone

Fax

**Biographical Resumé: Special Education Advisory Committee**  
**Michigan State Board of Education**

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**Name:** Jeff Siegel **Term:** 3 years (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2006)

**Address:** Superintendent  
Berrien County ISD  
711 St. Joseph Ave.  
Berrien Springs, MI 49103

**Present Position:** Superintendent

**Business Telephone:** (269) 471-7725

**Category —** X **Organization:** Michigan Assn. of Intermediate School Administrators  
SEAC At-large Member

**Race\*:** Caucasian **Gender:** Male  
(\*Requested in order to obtain diverse representation)

**Prior Experience:**

**Berrien Co. ISD: 2002-Present, Superintendent; 1997-2002, Director of Special Education; 1987-97, Assistant Director of Special Education; 1980-87, Supervisor of Diagnostic Services; 1973-80, School Psychologist**

**Educational and Other Organizational Affiliations:**

**Michigan Assn. of Intermediate School Administrators, Michigan Assn. of School Administrators, Council for Exceptional Children**

**Education:**

**1973 - CMU, Specialist Degree, School Psychological Services; 1973 - CMU, Master's Degree, Psychology; 1971 - Adelphi University, NY, Bachelor's Degree, Psychology**

**Miscellaneous Information:**

**1999 Murray O. Batten Award presented by MAISEA**

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**Organization Alternate Nominee**

☒ Keep present alternate — Don Spencer

☐ New alternate:      Name  
                                    Address

Business telephone

Fax

**Biographical Resumé: Special Education Advisory Committee**  
**Michigan State Board of Education**

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**Name:** Don Trap **Term:** 1 year (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004)

**Address:** Shiawassee Regional Educational Service District  
1025 North Shiawassee Street  
Corunna, MI 48817

**Present Position:** Assistant Superintendent

**Business Telephone:** (989) 743-3471

**Category —** X **Organization:** Michigan Assn. of Intermediate Special Ed. Administrators  
SEAC At-large Member

**Race\*:** Caucasian **Gender:** Male  
(\*Requested in order to obtain diverse representation)

**Prior Experience:**  
Member of SEAC - 3 years

**Educational and Other Organizational Affiliations:**  
CEC, ASCD, MAASE/MAISEA, NASW

**Education:**  
BS - MSU; MSW - MSU; Post graduate - MSU

**Miscellaneous Information:**

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**Organization Alternate Nominee**

☐ Keep present alternate —

☒ New alternate:

<b>Name</b>	Cindy Anderson
<b>Address</b>	Ingham ISD
	2630 W. Howell Road
	Mason MI 48854

**Business telephone** (517) 244-1425 **Fax** (517) 655-6789

**Biographical Resumé: Special Education Advisory Committee  
Michigan State Board of Education**

**Name: Lois Lofton Doniver**

**Term: 3 years (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2006)**

**Address: 2661 East Jefferson  
Detroit, MI 48207**

**Present Position: Secretary-Treasurer, MFT&SRP**

**Business Telephone: (313) 393-2200**

**Category — X Organization: Mich. Federation of Teachers and School Related Personnel  
SEAC At-large Member**

**Race\*: African-American Gender: Female  
(\*Requested in order to obtain diverse representation)**

**Prior Experience:**

**11 years, EMI Teacher; 12 years, LD Teacher Consultant; 5 years, Detroit Federation of Teachers Chapter - Special Education Chair**

**Educational and Other Organizational Affiliations:  
Member of CAUSE**

**Education:  
BS - Educable Mentally Impaired; MS - Educational Sociology; Post MA - 8 hours,  
Learning Disability**

**Miscellaneous Information:  
MFT&SRP Special Education and ISD Committee Co-Chair**

**Biographical Resumé: Special Education Advisory Committee**  
**Michigan State Board of Education**

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**Name:** Colette Ward

**Term:** 3 years (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2006)

**Address:** 1212 North Van Dyke  
Bad Axe, MI 48413

**Present Position:** Chairperson, Statewide PAC

**Business Telephone:**

**Category —** ☒ **Organization:** Statewide Parent Advisory Committee  
SEAC At-large Member

**Race\*:** Caucasian **Gender:** Female  
(\*Requested in order to obtain diverse representation)

**Prior Experience:**

**Office Manager for bookkeeping and tax service; MP&A parent trainer (Asset Program); CAUSE parent trainer**

**Educational and Other Organizational Affiliations:**

**Huron ISD PAC chairperson - 5years; SPAC Chairperson - 1 year; Huron Transition Council - 2 years; State Interagency Coordinating Council - 1 year; RICC - 1 year; SEAC alternate - 1 year**

**Education:**

**Secretarial/Word Processing Technical School; H&R Block Income Tax school; website design course; French course**

**Miscellaneous Information:**

**Worked for Nationwide Insurance Company; worked for Children's Hospital (billing for ER doctors); attended many workshops provided by Department of Education, CDC, Transition Council, CAUSE; presented on PACs at CEC; presented and planned 8/2003 SPAC Conference**

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**Organization Alternate Nominee**

☒ **Keep present alternate — Lynne Tamor**

☐ **New alternate:** Name  
Address

**Business telephone**

**Fax**

**Biographical Resumé: Special Education Advisory Committee**  
**Michigan State Board of Education**

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**Name:** Deb Russell

**Term:** 1 year (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004)

**Address:** 6318 Eagle Ridge  
Kalamazoo, MI 49004

**Present Position:** Director of Family Information Exchange, Arc Michigan

**Business Telephone:** (616) 382-2828

**Category —** X **Organization:** Michigan Association of School Boards  
SEAC At-large Member

**Race\*:** Caucasian **Gender:** Female  
(\*Requested in order to obtain diverse representation)

**Prior Experience:**

Gull Lake Board member; Ambassador for public education; Former Governor  
appointee to SICC (Early On® advisory committee); CMH Board member

**Educational and Other Organizational Affiliations:**

Family Voices of Michigan board member

**Education:**

Bachelors degree - Psychology; Masters degree - Public Administration; Gerontology  
certificate

**Miscellaneous Information:**

Parent of son who receives special education programs and services

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**Organization Alternate Nominee**

☒ Keep present alternate — Lynda Jackson

☐ New alternate:      Name  
                                    Address

Business telephone

Fax